Patent Attorney's Docket No. <u>021238-437</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Michael V. LEWIS et al.) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: 09/763,807) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: February 27, 2001)
For: CIGARETTE MANUFACTURING)
MACHINE AND CONTROL SYSTEM THEREFOR))

John Strain

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph after the title of the invention on page 1 of the application:

--This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 of PCT/GB99/02863 filed September 1, 1999 which International Application was published by the International Bureau in English on March 30, 2000.--